

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/068,300

Examiner

Brij B Shrivastav

Applicant(s)

REISKER ET AL.0

Art Unit

2859

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to April 23, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18-21,23-36,46-49,51-60,62-65 and 67-81.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

1. Applicants' amendment dated April 23, 2004 has been received and entered. The amended and pending claims in the application are 18-21, 23-36, 46-49, 51-60, 62-65, 67-81, which are in allowable condition. Applicant has canceled claims 1-17, 22, 50 and 66.

Examiners' Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows: Examiner has canceled claims 37-45, 61 and 82-93. These claims have been withdrawn by the applicant for further consideration.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 18-21 and 23-31 are allowed, as the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a coil for use with a magnetic resonance imaging system to form images of a region of a patient during an MRI scanning procedure, including a plurality of rods, each of the rod having a linear portion and a tapered portion with the linear portion being connected to the first ring and the tapered portion being connected to the second ring, in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 32-36 are allowed, as the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a coil for use with a magnetic resonance imaging system to form images of a region of a

patient during an MRI scanning procedure, including a plurality of rods having a linear portion and at each end thereof a tapered portion to which the first and the second rings respectively connect, in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 46-49 and 51-60 are allowed, as the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a coil for use with a magnetic resonance system, including at least some of the conductors each having a linear portion and a tapered portion, in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 62-65 and 67-76 are allowed, as the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a coil for use with a magnetic resonance system, including a plurality of conductive rods extending between the first and the second ends, each of the conductive rods having linear portion and a tapered portion, in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Claims 77-81 are allowed, as the prior art of record does not teach or suggest coil for use with a magnetic resonance system, including a plurality of conductive rods extending between the first and the second end, each of the rods having a linear portion and each end thereof a tapered portion, in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

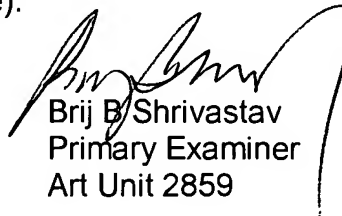
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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brij B Shrivastav whose telephone number is 571-272-2250. The examiner can normally be reached on 7 AM to 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego F. F. Gutierrez can be reached on 571-272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

July 23, 2004


Brij B Shrivastav
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2859
